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Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10
OIC-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04
NSAE-00 SIL-01 IOE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00
USIE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 DHA-02 HEW-04 /123 W
----------151716Z 079713 /42
O R 151611Z JUN 77
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8258
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMCONSUL CURACAO
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMCONSUL MELBOURNE
EC CAPITALS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 GENEVA 4795

IO FOR DALLEY; S/IL FOR BOWIE; PASS LABOR FOR SEC. MARSHALL AND ILAB

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ILO, PLAB
SUBJ: 63RD SESSION, INTERNATIONAL LABOR CONFERENCE

REF: GENEVA 4754

1. SUMMARY: THIS MESSGAE COVERS THE EVENTS OF JUNE 14 AT THE ILC. DEVELOPMENTS ON ARTICLE 17 WILL BE REPORTED SEPTEL. END SUMMARY.
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2. RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE (RC)--FINISHED 27 OF THE 59 PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE FIRST RESOLUTION ON THE STRENGTHENING OF TRI-PARTITISM. THE 27TH AMENDMENT WAS ACCEPTED AFTER A SHOW OF HANDS AND A RECORD VOTE (IT ADDS TO THE 11TH PREAMBULAR PARA-GRAPH THE FOLLOWING:
QUOTE AND THAT, IN THIS REGARD, POLITICAL ISSUES OUTSIDE THE

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COMPETENCE OF THE ILO SHALL NOT BE A PROPER SUBJECT OF INQUIRY BY THE ILO. UNQUOTE). THE SHOW OF HANDS VOTE WAS 207,818 FOR, 24,211 AGAINST, AND 113,236 ABSTENTION (VOTING FOR WERE WESTERN COUNTRIES AND NICARAGUA, SURINAM AND URUGUAY; ABSTAINING IN AN ATTEMPT TO DEFEAT THE AMENDMENT WERE THE EE BLOC, ARAB COUNTRIES AND PORTUGAL, SENEGAL, UGANDA AND VENEZUELA). THE SECOND RECORD VOTE HAS NO NEGATIVE VOTES AND CAME OUT 210,648 FOR AND 171,154 ABSTAINING. THE GOVERNMENT GROUP WAS DIVIDED, 20 FOR AND 26 ABSTENTIONS; THE EMPLOYERS GROUP CAME DOWN WITH 20 FOR AND 6 ABSTENTIONS; THE WORKERS GOURP HAS 24 FOR AND 34 ABSTENTIONS. THE QUORUM WAS 203,372 VOTES AND WE CALCULATE THAT 20 TO 25 PERCENT OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS WERE ABSENT; THUS A VOTE AT THE CONFERENCE PLENARY IS NOT LIKELY TO BA AS FAVORABLE.

3. (RC CONT'D). NUMEROUS AMENDMENTS HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED TO THE SECOND RESOLUTION, AND IF THE COMMITTEE CONTINUES TO WORK AT ITS PRESENT RATE, IT IS UNLIKELY THAT THE PANAMA RESOLUTION WILL BE DISCUSSED UNTIL FRIDAY (EVEN WITH NIGHT SESSIONS JUNE 15 AND 16). COMMITTEE WORKING PARTY WAS UNABLE TO AGREE AND WILL CONTINUE ITS DISCUSSION OF THE RANK ORDER OF THE REMAINING FIVE RESOLUTIONS; HOWEVER, IT IS UNLIKELY THAT ANY OF THESE RESOLUTIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED BY THE RC BEFORE THE MIDNIGHT JUNE 15 DEADLINE.

4. COMMITTEE ON APPLICATION OF CONVENTIONS (CAC)--DEBATE CENTERED ON SOVIET COMPLIANCE WITH CONVENTION 87 (FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION) AND CZECH PERFORMANCE UNDER CONVENTION 111 (DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT). ON FORMER, A CAC REJECTED MOVE BY WORKER VICE CHAIR-MAN (HOUTHUYS, BELGIUM) TO CLOSE DISCUSSION BEFORE WESTERN GOVERNMENT REPS COULD REGISTER THEIR CRITICISMS. THE CHANCES THAT CONFIDENTIAL

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CAC WILL DEVOTE SPECIAL PARAGRAPH TO USSR ON CONVENTION 87 ARE GOOD. IN SPITE OF A BRILLIANT DEFENCE OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA BY EE BLOC REPS, CAC IS LIKELY TO INCLUDE A SPECIAL PARAGRAPH UNDER CONVENTION 111. CAC DISCUSSED ARGENTINE CASE (SEE SEPTEL) AND DECIDED FOR A SPECIAL PARAGRAPH. USDEL DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE DISCUSSION.

4. THE NURSING PERSONNEL COMMITTEE FINISHED ITS WORK.

5. THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMITTEE (PSC)-- AFTER LENGTHY DISCUSSION OVERWHELMINGLY ADOPTED THE REPORT OF THE WORKING PARTY ON THE SCOPE AND DEFINITIONS OF THE CONVENTION. THE FRG GOVERNMENT DELEGATE CAST THE SOLE NEGATIVE VOTE ALTHOUGH SEVEN COUNTRIES, INCLUDING JAPAN, ABSTAINED.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 GENEVA 4795

6. (PSC CONT'D.) AN UNEXPECTED BATTLE DEVELOPED OVER ROUTINE LANGUAGE (IN POINT 10) PROTECTING EMPLOYEES AGAINST ACTS OF ANTI-UNION DISCRIMINATION. FRG PROPOSED TWO AMENDMENTS (SUPPORTED BY THE EMPLOYERS GROUP AND SOME GOVERNMENTS) TO GUARANTEE EMPLOYEES THE RIGHT
NOT TO ORGANIZE. THE WORKERS, INCLUDING U.S. (SHANKER) URGED DEFEAT. AT A CRITICAL POINT, THE EMPLOYERS CALLED FOR A RECESS. IT WAS OBVIOUS THE UNION SECURITY ISSUE WHICH HAS BEEN SIDESTEPPED 30 YEARS AGO IN CONVENTION 98 WAS FAST BECOMING A STUMBLING BLOCK TO THE INSTRUMENT ON PUBLIC EMPLOYEE RIGHTS (IN 1949, THE ILO DECIDED THE ISSUE SHOULD BE LEFT TO MEMBER STATES AND SHOULD NOT BE ADDRESSED IN CONVENTION 98).

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7. (PSC CONT'D.) THE EMPLOYERS, WITHOUT RELINQUISHING THEIR BASIC VIEWS ON THE ISSUE, DECIDED TO ABSTAIN IN THE VOTING. (THIS APPROACH WAS URGED BY U.S.G. DEL INGRASSIA, AMONG OTHERS, DURING THE RECESS). THE AMENDMENTS THEN WERE DEFEATED BY WIDE MARGIN FOR

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LACK OF QUORUM. U.S. DELEGATE ABSTAINED ON BOTH VOTES.

8. (PSC CONT'D.) POINTS 10 AND 11 THEN WERE ADOPTED. THE DELEGATES DECIDED TO SEND ALL AMENDMENTS ON POINT 12 (FACILITIES TO BE AFFORDED PUBLIC EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATIONS) TO THE WORKING PARTY. US EMPLOYER SHAW AND USG REP INGRASSIA WERE NAMED TO DRAFTING COMMITTEE.

9. THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR ADMINISTRATION DECIDED THAT THE INSTRUMENTS SHOULD BE A CONVENTION SUPPLEMENTED BY RECOMMENDATION. IT COMPLETED ITS REVIEW OF THW PROPOSED CONCLUSIONS AND SENT THE INSTRUMENTS TO ITS DRAFTING COMMITTEE. THE MAJOR POINTS OF DISCUSSION WERE:
(A) THE RECOMMENDATION ON THE AIMS OF THE FREE PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT SERVICE IN RELATION TO PRIVATE EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES;
(B) THE DISTRIBUTION OF INTERNAL OPERATIONAL REPORTS TO EMPLOYER AND WORKER ORGANIZATIONS; AND
(C) REVIEW OF THE STRUCTURE OF LABOR ADMINISTRATIONS AND THE ROLE THAT EMPLOYERS AND WORKERS ORGANIZATIONS SHOULD PLAY.
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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: GS
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